SOUTH VIET NAM *In Struggle*

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C/O

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19, *Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN*

and all SVNR Embassies, Information Bureaux in foreign countries.

NESE COUNTRIES WILL CERTAINLY WIN!

CAY DUA,
Another Hell on Earth

THE Committee for Denunciation of the US Imperialists' and Their Henchmen's War Crimes in South Viet Nam issued on March 16, 1971 a statement condemning the atrocities committed by the US-quislings against the South Vietnamese patriots illegally detained by them at Cay Dua prison (Phu Quoc Island).

"Cay Dua prison," the statement said, "is one of the hells on earth under the US-puppet regime.

From two sections with 2,000 inmates in early 1967 the prison had ten sections with 20 camps with more than 28,000 prisoners in October 1970.

"It is surrounded by 16 fences of electric wire about 8 metres thick, 4 barbed wire fences, a mine-field 30 metres wide and 10 watch-towers.

"The US-puppets maintain there a big force comprising 5 battalions of military guards and 4 battalions of civil guards.

"The detainees take their meals, sleep, relieve themselves right in their wards. They have to lie one side when sleeping and wash by exposing themselves to the sun until they sweat profusely and then wiping off the perspiration with the dirt. Because of mouldy rice and rotten fish, most of the prisoners suffer from beri-beri, dysentery...

"Every day, the inmates are subjected to very horrible torture: searing their bellies, slicing off their flesh with knives, pricking needles into their fingers, tongues or genital organs, striking their private parts with a hammer, planting 10cm-long nails into their legs, dipping their bodies into the water or burrying them in the sand in the sunshine till they die. Many prisoners tortured to invalidity are confined in open 'tiger cages' about 4 square metres each with 1 metre-high fences of barbed wire in which they are exposed to the sun and rain for several successive weeks.

"The US-puppets also poison the prisoners' drinking water, put the inmates in bags and set fire to them or throw them into boiling water..."

"In 1969 alone," the statement went on, "more than 630 detainees died from such atrocities. The yearly rate of inmates killed or disabled by torture is respectively 9% and 15%. Besides, hundreds of others have been taken to unknown destinations and liquidated..."

The statement said that the crimes perpetrated by the US-quislings at Cay Dua prison were the most heinous of our times.

Since Nixon came to power, the number of jails has been increasing day by day, the prison regime has become ever harder and tortures ever more atrocious.

The statement sternly denounced to public opinion at home and abroad US-puppet crimes in South Viet Nam and barbarities at Cay Dua and other jails.

It called on the governments of all countries, international organizations, jurists, human rights, religious and social activists and freedom- and justice-loving people the world over to take most effective measures to force the US-puppets to put an immediate end to their cruelties, demolish all prisons in South Viet Nam, and stop at once their aggressive war and their crimes against the South Vietnamese people.

Saigon students injured and arrested by police in sweep operations

NIXON'S FOREIGN POLICY – ONE OF COLONIALIST AGGRESSION

NIXON has been hectically busy with propaganda activities – speeches, messages, news conferences... On Feb. 25, 1971, he made public a report of his on foreign policy counting no less than 65,000 words – the length of a kilometer if the words were put in succession.

A summary examination of the document will lead any shrewd observer to the conclusion that this is a typical compilation of misleading formulae, while a more careful perusal will help him discover in it a kind of 2,4,5-T in high dosage packed in a glossy container with, as label, a US hand shaking someone else's hand.

The US President dealt in his report with all world problems and more especially with the Nixon doctrine and the Indochina issue. That means he was intent on advertising his own "doctrine" and defending the US criminal aggression in this South-East Asian peninsula.

As the US had poked its nose into all international questions, Nixon acknowledged its failure in the field of "global strategy." He consequently advocated a policy of military and economic aid, maintaining US forces at a strength capable of deterring the enemy, consolidating the more than 2,000 US bases scattered throughout the world, holding high the "nuclear umbrella" of protection, and urging "allied" countries to share the burden with America.

It is crystal-clear that though Nixon still dreamed of playing the role of an international gendarme, he no longer wore a uniform, but plain clothes with a dollar purse hanging by his hip, and carrying with him all sorts of weapons, including an A-bomb shell, a whistle, a trudgeon, a steel helmet and a shield.

As regards Asia, Nixon recommended increased military aid, deeper economic penetration, use of native troops for the defence of US and puppets' rule, commitment of Asian forces to issues involving other Asian countries while the US nuclear umbrella would be kept open above them, etc. Such is the substance of the Nixon doctrine which wants those dying for the defence of US safes to be yellow-skinned.

The US President devoted the major part of his report to the Indochina problem – which is at the origin of his present headache and threatens to bring about his eventual political doom as it has caused Johnson's. And this part of the document was stuffed with arguments, testimonies and even figures and rates!

Nixon took great pains painting a detailed picture of successes on the "Vietnamization" front. He did not fail to vindicate the US aggression against Cambodia in last year's spring and against Laos early this year. He tried to vamp up his Saigon agents and project them in a very rosy perspective. He shamelessly slandered the DRVN and threatened to wage war on it, and promised to maintain US forces in South Viet Nam until all US prisoners of war had been released.

The US President was indeed a past master in the craft, but not intelligent enough. He only showed obtuseness in face of the lamentable setbacks sustained by the US expeditionary troops and native mercenaries on the various Indochinese battlefields. He seemed to slight public opinion in the US and the world. But he should know that a speech full of flowery words is unable to hide the facts – US and puppet corpses on battlefronts – or to conceal his own obdurate aggressive stance.

To gain a position of strength on the battlefield, in four years as US President Johnson stepped up the war to a very high level of atrocity, using no less than 6,394,617 tons of bombs and shells in Viet Nam. But in half of his tenure of office, while continually talking peace and peaceful settlement, Nixon has used up to 5,423,459 tons of bombs and shells, or 221 units the A bomb dropped by the US on Hiroshima (figures covering the year 1969 and up to August 1970, released by the US Department of Defence). It is under Nixon that such Son My-type mass massacres as Ba Lang An, Kong H'Rinh, etc. took place.

Nixon endeavoured to advertise and beautify his "Vietnamization" policy. But if there were people who did not believe that Nixon's "Vietnamization" would fizzle out, who even lent an ear to the much trumpeted successes of the US armed invasion of Cambodia, there is now a quasi-unanimity among observers as to the Vietnamization program's neck-deep morass.

Once again in his foreign policy report, Nixon juggled with statistics: he advanced fabricated figures of enemy casualties, of US troops already withdrawn to induce the audience to think that the rate of US losses had been cut down! He likewise invented percentages concerning the territory and population under the Saigon control in an effort to embellish this quisling administration, prop up the puppet army's morale and to make believe that "Vietnamization" was a success.

However, Nixon forgot to mention the ebullient and uninterrupted wave of protest now sweeping all South Viet Nam cities and directed against the US and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem troika and militating for US pull-out and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique's resignation. He also committed the galloping inflation in Saigon (36 billion of piasters in circulation in 1965 and 106 billion in 1969) which has driven the people into dire straits. He likewise eluded the fact that in 5 weeks of fighting in North Quang Tri and South Laos, 9 crack battalions of the puppet army were neatly put out of action and over 300 US aircraft and 300 US armoured cars reduced to scraps. Nixon's objective in forging all those stories was to conceal the failure of his "Vietnamization" – which is a major application of the "Nixon doctrine" – and to placate US and world opinion so that he may be left free to prolong indefinitely the US military occupation of South Viet Nam and Indochina.

In the Indochina part of his report, Nixon bluntly affirmed that he was caught completely unawares by the news of the Cambodian March 18, 1970 coup d'état. Moreover he most hypocritically complained of the violations of the 1962 Agreement on Laos. Was'nt he playing La Fontaine's wolf and concurrently Frankenstein?

All honest men in the world saw the bloody hands of the US in the Phnom Penh putsch and the invasion of Cambodia, in the sabotage of the Lao tripartite union government and the fostering of the Vang Pao bandits as a tool for US domination of Laos and armed invasion of that country more recently.

There is no doubt that the US Chief Executive is going ahead with his experimentation in foreign policy, namely the application of the Nixon doctrine in Indochina, by pitting Indochinese against Indochinese for the defence of US interests.

But what is confronting him is the certain fiasco of such an enterprise.

Nixon's dream is to grow from a simple lawyer into a kind of philosopher, author of a "doctrine," and this by taking a page from Kissinger.

But if he is too wrapped up in his reactionary "doctrine" and his utterly colonialist-minded foreign policy, if he persists in sticking at all cost to his aggressive stance regarding Indochina, the Indochinese peoples will be the first to reserve to Nixon and his brainchild a fate which may turn out to be worse than that of his trigger-happy predecessor now living in the shade on his Texas ranch.

TRUONG VAN XE

The Calley affair,

a tragedy which turns out to be a farce

THREE years ago, on March 16th 1968, a serious incident occurred in South Viet Nam. Son My village — My Lai for the Americans — in Son Tinh district, Quang Ngai province, was razed to the ground, with dwellings burnt down, cattle killed and people slaughtered. In all, nearly 500 people—mostly old agers, women and children — were cut down in cold blood, with unprecedented savagery.

American brasshats managed to hush up this massacre for nearly twenty months when finally in November 1969 it was revealed in all its horror to millions of Americans. Ex-GI's who had taken part in the slaying, back from Viet Nam, denounced it on TV. Colour photos taken by a GI, Ronald Haeberle, were widely reproduced by the American and world press. Unable to deny the facts, American officials, Nixon in the first place, hastened to voice their "disapproval" and to order an inquiry to find out whether this was an "isolated incident."

Later on the affair went before a court martial and a GI was immediately picked out as the main responsible: Lieutenant William L. Calley. He was charged with the murder of some 100 old people, women and children.

A length of time has elapsed since then. Witnesses for the prosecution as well as for the defence have followed one another in the witness-box. New Court proceedings have started. Calley was even suspected of mental derangement but the psychiatrist explicitly declared after the tests that the man was normal. He himself put up a strong defence: he had only acted under the orders of his immediate superior, Captain Ernest Medina, who was present on the spot, commanding Charlie Company which comprised his section. Besides, fatigue, fear, hatred..., stated Calley before the Court, had been responsible to some extent for the behaviour of the troops that day. That was how things stood in early March 1971, three years after that "isolated incident." Meanwhile, the war has been going on more furiously than ever with US invasion of Cambodia, then of Laos, which news followed the revelations about the "tiger cages" in South Viet Nam. Large-scale mass-murders have succeeded one another, in Viet Nam naturally, but also in Laos and Cambodia, throughout Indochina. And the Calley affair is still before the Court, with the culprit still to be found and punished, if at all. But then, what next? Will US atrocities decrease in any way? Could the peoples of the world, who are attentively watching the grave events in Indochina, have their minds at peace?

THE OTHER FACE OF THE DRAMA

The farce staged by Nixon and his gang has turned out to be a tragedy at the expense of the American people.

In last September, Random House published a book entitled "My Lai, a report on the massacre and its aftermath" in which American journalist Seymour M. Hersh gives a full account of the facts as they happened and were related by their authors. From November 1969 to February 1970, Seymour Hersh travelled 80,000 km throughout the United States looking for the men of the former Charlie Company and interviewing them. He carefully noted down all the statements, even contradictory ones, set the facts in chronological order and then the book came out.

That is the full account, on the American side, of the Son My massacre which has found its place beside Lidice and Oradour. In every respect, it tallies with the denunciations from the Vietnamese side, with the only difference that the tale is "more vivid" and more detailed, for the murderers have had time to look back at their offence at leisure. Almost all the victims were women and children. Ronald Haeberle stated he had seen a GI firing at two young boys walking along a road. The older one, who was about 7 or 8, covered the other with his own body. The GI went on shooting and killed them both. "A woman went out of a hut with a baby in her arms," said another GI. When she was within range, one of Medina's men "shot at her with his M.16 and she fell down. Falling, she dropped her baby." The GI immediately "shot at the baby and it died too." Somewhere else, "a two-year old boy covered with blood miraculously crawled out of a ditch (full of corpses) crying. Then as he started running towards the hamlet, Calley ran after him, grasped him, threw him back into the ditch and killed him with a gunshot." And so on...

That could be described as pure sadism. However as Australian journalist Wilfred Burchett pointed out (*The Guardian*, December 12th 1969), "the Son My massacre was neither an isolated atrocity nor the product of some GI's sadism. It is the symbol of the genocidal war conducted by the US against the Vietnamese people." The Japanese newspaper *Asahi* (December 1st 1969) considered that the slaughter indicted "the US war policies in Viet Nam". In an announcement made public in November 1970, the National Committee for a Citizens' Investigating Commission on US War Crimes in Viet Nam, with H.Q. in New York, rejected the charge that the GI's were responsible for the atrocities they had perpetrated, for "they have been compelled to carry out the official and in fact genocidal policies in Indochina." This means that young Americans have been turned into savage brutes by the leaders of their country. The young draftee who goes to Viet Nam and will come back a year later—if ever—will never be the same. Many American mothers have experienced this bitter feeling of finding their sons injured physically and above all mentally. These young men need a long time to readjust to civilian and civilized life. For many of them, this reconversion is impossible and they are lost to society and above all to their own families. A dehumanized youth — partly at least —, such is the drama American society and American families will have to face now that the number of US ex-servicemen in Viet Nam has reached about two million and a half.

So, after killing women and children in Viet Nam, a GI is returned to his family by the US Army as a dehumanized creature.

EXECUTIONERS TURNED SCAPE GOATS

Every GI questioned on the Son My massacre answered that he was not at all surprised by it, for such crimes were common occurrences in Viet Nam and everything predisposed him to commit them. First of all, the training. Before leaving for this far-away country, he had learnt how to hate and despise the *Viet Congs*, he had been incited to kill as many of them as possible, even to tear them to pieces if they liked, these creatures being merely "subhumans" or rather "things". To avoid being killed, the GI must kill and kill everyone. In "free-fire zones," they are permitted to wipe out everything that moves. Time will gradually come when his only aim in Viet Nam is to sow death and ruins. The American undertaking has lost all significance for him. He is there to martyrize a whole people whom he is supposed to defend. All means are fair, even the most barbarous and the most illegal ones. Superbombers B.52 carrying out saturation carpet bombings, toxic chemicals causing congenital malformations and ecological changes, massive concentrating of the population, mass massacres, medieval tortures... And what do these things aim at? Safeguarding the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta who has been installed by the Americans and who are Mr Nixon's friends? Preserving the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination? Accelerating the withdrawal of US troops from Viet Nam as has been promised by Mr Nixon?... Even the most clever men would be hard put to find an answer. Meanwhile, tens of thousands of GI's have been dying in Viet Nam, North and South, and at present in Laos and Cambodia.

Those who obeyed to the letter the instructions of their superiors and carried out the policy of their government must now face the court martial and answer for the acts for which they were sent in Viet Nam. After lavishing praise on the GI's and their achievements in this part of the world,—"At home we are proud of you and of what you've done in Viet Nam," said Vice-President Agnew—, the American officials, headed by Mr Nixon, tried to dissociate themselves from their crimes. Let some "unruly elements" — like Calley and Medina—be court martialled, and everything will be set right. That is the so-called Calley affair.

But in spite of the "gags" spawned by Mr Nixon and Co the farce is bordering on a tragedy, and it is likely that hundreds of thousands of Viet Nam veterans and a majority of the American people and other peoples of the world as well, will not relish the hoax.

HO MAI BAC

The slaughter and... its real author (*The* Daily Worker)

US uses South Viet Nam women and children in mine clearing

CIVILIANS of various ages, children included, were used by the Saigon authorities and Americans to clear minefields in South Viet Nam, wrote Gloria Emerson, a *New York Times* correspondent, after her visit to BH village, near the Cambodian frontier.

The inhabitants told the journalist that they had been forced to go and clear mines in the hilly areas devastated by frequent clashes.

The American high-ranking officers in Chau Doc province who were in the know, did nothing to stop the scheme despite the protests by the village authorities who moreover could not find manpower for the job, said the American correspondent.

The best to do was to put it off until tomorrow, she wrote on January 10, 1971.

Some people thought that this delay was due to the fear of a growing discontent among the villagers.

The South Vietnamese authorities said that this mine disposal was essentially intended for a special pacification action which had begun in the area in August last.

According to unconfirmed reports, four people were killed and at least fourteen others seriously wounded in this mine-clearing job.

"Who will help us?", a villager said. "Some give money to be exempted from the job, but we are poor people, most of us have not enough of it to grease the palms of the recruiters..."

The workers received no pay and their farming was left uncared for during their absence, the journalist remarked.

A protest letter sent in September by 21 South Vietnamese to the chief of province remained unanswered.

Once again, the barbarous practice disclosed by the American correspondent cannot be regarded as an isolated case.

These facts were brought to light by two American youths coming to South Viet Nam in 1969 under the so-called International Voluntary Service scheme who had resigned from their group to be able to protest against what they had seen.

Civilians have been thus employed by the Saigon troops and Americans in many localities. The casualties have been many...

(Translated from an article of the Swiss paper Voix Ouvrière, *January* 13, 1971*)*

editorial

The US escalation of the war courts more murderous return blows

A glimpse back at the events in Viet Nam and Indochina shows that the more frantic the US escalation of the war, the more murderous the return blows.

MARCH 19, 1950 AN HISTORIC DATE

TWENTY ONE years ago, Viet Nam first anti-US demonstration broke out in Saigon. In those days, after long and fruitless assistance to the French colonialists, US warships and planes were sent on March 19, 1950 for a show off of strength. The US design was then to intimidate the Vietnamese while shoring up the French aggressors who were in utter distress on all the Indochinese battlefields. It must be added that the fate of the French-led Saigon administration was also seriously threatened.

But the Saigonese had given the French aggressors, their Saigon valets and their American masters altogether a stern answer. Hundreds of thousands of Saigonese streamed down the streets tempestuously, burned the invaders' flag, intercepted, hunted, beat the expeditionary troops and marched on Saigon harbour, shouting slogans: "Down with the US interventionists! US imperialists go home!" In concert with the revolutionary masses, the Saigon people's armed forces dealt accurate blows at the US interventionists and compelled two American warships "Stickel" and "Henderson" to sail off without fuss.

Thus, in their first confrontation with the US imperialists, the most bellicose and brutal ones in our time, the Saigonese chalked their first victory in the golden history book of Viet Nam anti-US struggle.

THE 1959-1960 SIMULTANEOUS UPRISINGS

SINCE then, South Viet Nam has been the scene of the hardest and fiercest fight between the South Vietnamese on the one side and the US imperialists on the other.

Also since then, the latter have laid bare the true face of a perfidious and brutal aggressor. A retrospective of the events in the Indochinese peninsula shows that, after the French defeat that led to the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina (recognition of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos' independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity), the US rode roughshod over South Viet Nam, ousted the French colonialists, and rigged up a US-paid administration with the design of turning that area into a US military base and neo-colony.

But once again, the South Viet Nam population put up an unflinching resistance traditional to the spirit of the historic May 19 Day. That bitter struggle, now smothering, then bursting out all over South Viet Nam, has shaken the US neo-colonialist domination to its root. The South Viet Nam population's successful simultaneous uprisings in 1959-1960 led to the founding of the South Viet Nam NFL, the organizer and leader of the South Viet Nam population. Holding high the national liberation banner, the Front has rallied all the people's strata to carry out the struggle against the US imperialists and their flunkeys.

JANUARY 1963: AP BAC VICTORY, AN HISTORIC MILESTONE

IN its dream of making South Viet Nam an American military base and colony, the US keeps pouring dollars and weapons there, using the Saigon puppet army to wage a special war against the population.

That "special warfare" — a war strategy of colonialist aggression — was regarded by the Pentagon war-makers as "cheap" and "wise." The reason was the following: first, in terms of logistics, puppet troops are much cheaper than American GIs; second, the former know the terrain and the enemy much better than the latter. Thus, the US plays the simple role of an "outsider."

Unfortunately, the US imperialists have mistakenly selected the "ground" and the "opponents" in the test of their war strategy. Far from quenching the flames of the South Viet Nam population's struggle, the US-special war has fanned them up into a great patriotic resistance war, an all-out people's war of liberation. The South Viet Nam population has confronted the US puppet "special warfare" with a talented people's war in which political and military forms have been combined with agitation work amongst puppet troops.

In January 1963, the AP BAC resounding victory earmaked the fiasco of the "heliborne" tactics, while highlighting the vigorous growth of the popular struggle in South Viet Nam urban centres and enemy-controlled areas alike. This resulted in the Diem-Nhu brothers' tragic death and the irreversible bankruptcy of the "special warfare."

SPRING 1968 GENERALIZED OFFENSIVE AND SIMULTANEOUS UPRISINGS

IN early 1965, American troops were sent massively to South Viet Nam in an attempt to salvage the US neo-colonialist domination from collapse due to the failure of the special warfare. With a big expeditionary corps, the US nurtures the illusions of bolstering the disintegrated puppet army and the US-paid tottering administration.

US hard-core units, such as the "Big Red One," "Americal" or "Air Cavalry" Divisions, and US most up-to-date weapons (except nuclear arms) were used to conduct the "biggest, fiercest and cruellest war of aggression" in South Viet Nam. B.52 strategic bombers, toxic chemicals have also been resorted to, in an attempt to break in a short period of time the South Viet Nam people's resistance. It was the period when the US war of aggression reached its climax. It was also the time when the US stepped up its special war in Laos and carried out the air and naval war of destruction against the DRVN with a view to facilitating the success of the "localized war" which marked then the unprecendented violence and fierceness of the conflict. But in those days, the Vietnamese people won tremendous and all-sided victories never seen before in Viet Nam annals of anti-aggression struggle.

With a 500,000-strong expeditionary corps plus more than half a million puppet and satellite troops, the US brass-hats launched two strategic counter-offensives during the two successive dry seasons of 1965-1966 and 1966-1967, so as to win tentatively the initiative on the battlefield. But they met with dismal defeat. The US "search and destroy" tactics and "pacification" strategy could not develop their effect. The US Army — the prop of the Saigon troops — suffered bitter reverses. The puppet army, relying on US armed forces, could do nothing consequently. During the whole rainy season, the Saigon troops and GIs were altogether in a mess and unable to get a way out. Nor could they strengthen their forces, "sweep" and "hold."

Then in the spring of 1968, the South Viet Nam population and the PLAF in their generalized offensive and simultaneous uprisings dealt deadly blows at the US-puppets and scored tremendous victories that changed the aspect of the war and ushered in a new stage. Stunned by repeated hard blows, the US military command had to shift from the "search and destroy" tactics to "sweep and hold" while virtually continuing the war of destruction against the DRVN and on the other hand withdrawing a minimal number of US troops, chiefly to reduce the war burden and also fool public opinion.

However, the great victory of South Viet Nam's generalized offensive and simultaneous uprisings obviously foiled the US "localized war" strategy basically. It was evident that the US command and the Saigon troops were neither able to "sweep" nor to "hold."

THE PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM: NOVEMBER 1968

BUT the Pentagon has not given up its ambition of turning South Viet Nam into a US military base and neo-colony, prolonging the partition of Viet Nam. The US obstinately clings to South Viet Nam, seeks way and means to continue the war in view of a military victory, while playing peace hoax at the Paris 4-party Conference on Viet Nam. That is the real aim of Nixon's "Vietnamization" of the war. Under that policy, the US top brass-hats and the Saigon puppet administration have multiplied innumerable crimes against the South Viet Nam population, particularly in their "accelerated" and "special pacification" program. Fascist measures have been taken to grab the urban population's property recklessly, increase the Saigon army effectives and strengthen the puppet administration. Though brutal and perfidious, the "Vietnamization" of the war remains a forcible and adventurist policy born of a losing posture. It will court still heavier defeats.

Over the last two years, the South Viet Nam population has been maintaining and developing vigorously its struggle in all forms, making the Saigon regime more precarious and impotent than never before. The PLAF have become stronger and stronger, going ahead steadily, dealing hard blows at the "Vietnamization" policy and stopping dead the vicious and brutal scheme of the US aggressors.

Unable to win a military victory on the battlefield, they had to sit at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam held in November 1968 for the search of a political solution to the Viet Nam problem. But so far, the Conference still marks time because of the US administration's obstinate refusal to respond to the logical and reasonable proposals of the PRG of the RSVN.

Meanwhile, trying to stave off the fiasco of the "Vietnamization" of the war in South Viet Nam, Nixon set out to practise his own doctrine: Cambodia fell victim of US overt aggression. The war spread to the whole of Indochina. However, Nixon's war escalation only courts ignominious defeats. Failing to get out of the morass in South Viet Nam and Laos theatres of operations, he gets bogged down more deeply in Cambodia

NIXON SAID SOME PEOPLE "TEND TO GLORIFY AND MAKE HEROES OUT OF THOSE WHO ENGAGE IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES."

where the revolution is developing swiftly. The Indochinese countries' revolutionary forces have made gigantic strides, particularly since the publication of the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese People's Summit Conference.

FEBRUARY 1971: NIXON'S NEW ADVENTURE IN LAOS

RELUCTANT to give up his dream of winning a military victory on the battlefield, while striving to retrieve the disaster of the "Vietnamization" policy and his own doctrine, in February 1971, Nixon dispatched US-supported mercenaries to invade Laos. Once again, Nixon wanted to test the effect of the "Vietnamization" of the war, his Asian doctrine and strategic formula: puppet troops + US support. Powerful American and puppet armed forces have been sent to Laos with the hope of winning a big victory. Right from the outset, public opinion has seen in this a perilous game. In fact, the invading troops have unremittingly taken staggering blows in Northern Quang Tri and Southern Laos. The peoples of Laos and South Viet Nam together with their armed forces have co-ordinated their fight marvellously, dealing very clever, very hard and accurate blows at the enemy, inflicting heavy losses upon them. Adverse logistic bases, car parks, airfields, artillery emplacements in Northern Quang Tri were assaulted. The Lao People's Liberation Army attacked the enemy when they were operating or clustering, downed many aircraft, shattered motorized units and upset their operational plan. Meanwhile, on Northern Laos battlefield, vast areas have been liberated. The Sam Thong — Long Cheng enemy-held region was assaulted, Vang Pao's HQ overrun and Vientiane area seriously threatened. On the Cambodian battlefield, the US - puppets' operation "Complete Victory" launched in January 1971 is being dismally smashed. The people's war is developing vigorously, plunging the Saigon and Lon Nol puppets into unprecedented distress. In South Viet Nam, on the operation theatres of Central Trung Bo, the High Plateaux and Western Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper), the South Viet Nam PLAF launched massive attacks, pinning down numbers of US-puppet units, annihilating many enemy bases and military posts, decimating seriously their live forces and shattering their means of war.

The struggle of the three Indochinese peoples goes on and will score greater victories. Events on the three battlefields point to the fiasco of the "heliborne" and "armoured vehicle" tactics—the soul of the puppet army. The break-down of these tactics entails the defeat of the puppet infantry. The Pentagon strategic formula: puppet infantry + US support (air and artillery) has gone bankrupt. The Nixon doctrine is subjected to a very hard test. The "Vietnamization" vicious circle has not helped the top brass-hats find a way out, instead the current prolongation and extension of the war will drive them to complete failure.

BUT, the US imperialists, warlike and aggressive as they are, remain very obdurate. Nixon still contemplates rash and dangerous designs. In his report on US foreign policy to Congress, he exposed obviously and fully the US odious schemes and acts against the Indochinese countries. He keeps boasting of "Vietnamization" success and peddling his peace hoax. He also reveals his manœuvre of prolonging and widening the war to the whole of Indochina and his threat of new military adventure against the DRVN. More than never before, the US imperialists have shown themselves the neo-fascists, the most dangerous enemy of the peoples in Indochina and the world, the international gendarme. For 21 years now, they have sought every means to realize their colonialist aggressive scheme. They have suffered defeat after defeat. But after each defeat, they escalated the war and in each escalation, they took unexpected blows. The US escalation of the war aims at averting its failure. But it is playing with fire. Being bogged down, the more the US imperialists squirm, the deeper they sink.

For 21 years now, the South Viet Nam population and its armed forces have been giving full play to their indomitable fighting spirit and the historic experience of the March 19 Day. They have deployed a persistent and heroic fight in every form. Possessing the strength of national union and combining cleverly all forms of struggle, they have won victory after victory, this one bigger than the last one. The more they fight, the stronger they become and the bigger their victories.

The South Viet Nam population and its armed forces' big victories during their 21-year anti-US struggle prove that the US imperialists have suffered the most ignominious defeats ever known in Indochina, in spite of abundance of dollars and guns. Weakening and being isolated unprecedentedly in the history of imperialist aggression, they will certainly be defeated completely.

This has been written with the blood of the Vietnamese and Indochinese peoples who enjoy the sympathy and support of the peoples in the United States and the world.

SOUTH VIET NAM in Struggle

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh's messages to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries participating to the Lusaka Conference

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh recently sent urgent messages to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries participating to the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries held in Sept. 1970 in Lusaka.

The RSVN Foreign Minister sternly condemned the US government's new military adventurist acts of invading Laos, extending the war to the whole of Indochina, creating an extremely dangerous situation in that area and threatening peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh also urged the governments of the said countries, in the spirit of the resolution on Indochina adopted by the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Cotuntries to take appropriate measures so as to check and frustrate the US schemes of prolonging the war of aggression against South Viet Nam and escalating the war in Indochina.

GENOCIDE ; HOMICIDE ; CONSPIRACY

WANTED

RICHARD MILHOUS NIXON

Other name known by Richard M. Nixon, "Tricky Dick"

DESCRIPTION

AGE: 57 Born January 9, 1913 Yorba Lind, Calif.
HEIGHT: 5' 11 1/2"
WEIGHT: 170 pounds
BUILD: Medium
HAIR: Black
EYES: Brown
COMPLEXION: Mottled
RACE: White
NATIONALITY: American
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave Washington DC

CAUTION

Nixon reportedly has been associated with persons who advocate the use of explosives and may have acquired firearms consider dangerous.

Nixon is wanted for conspiring to murder tens of thousands of American soldiers and at least one million Vietnamese.

He is also wanted in connection with the murders of twenty-eight Black Panthers, four Kent State students, and two Jackson State students.

If you have information concerning this person,
Please help to bring him to Justice.

(We reproduce this notice for "FALL IN AT EASE")

"MARCH 19" SPIRIT UPHELD IN SAIGON AND OTHER SOUTH VIET NAM CITIES

ON March 19, 1950, hundreds of thousands of people in Saigon turned out in the streets against US intervention in Viet Nam. Since then, people in Saigon and other cities of South Viet Nam have been constantly upholding and promoting the spirit of that historic day, faithfully, perseveringly and dauntlessly contributing their due share to the effort against aggression, for independence and freedom.

Especially, for over a year now, since Nixon has been speeding up the "Vietnamization" of the war in South Viet Nam, flinging troops against Cambodia and most recently against Laos and stepping up military adventures against the DRVN, the tumultuous drive by the urban people for welfare and democratic freedoms, for an end to the US aggressive war and the withdrawal of American troops from South Viet Nam has been mounting unceasingly and ever more violently, spearheaded at the US-puppets' dens, thus shaking their last foothold.

UNDER diversified and creative forms, the turmoil has been continually gaining in intensity and magnitude, drawing people from all walks of life, generating a powerful impetus in the offensive against "Vietnamization" and US war extension throughout Indochina.

In early last year, in disregard of the Saigon "10-68" law banning strikes, over 70,000 workers belonging to 118 Trade Unions in Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh called a general strike in support of the bus workers' protest against dissolution of the "public-owned" bus enterprise system, and dismissal of thousands of bus workers. Later on, hundreds of thousands of workers from several branches such as banks, electricity and water companies, aviation and transport services, ports, chemical and pharmaceutical plants... staged thousands of other actions for wagelifts, to meet the ever higher living cost against firing of workers and wagecuts. Particularly, workers at such American firms as RMK-BRJ, USAID, Thu Duc storages, Saigon and Da Nang military ports, rose up against money grabbing, and exploitation and for better working conditions, especially against repression and illtreatment of workers and offences against women employees by American bosses.

Under such forms as petitions, protest meetings and fasts, occupation of enterprises, strikes with time-limit and indefinite general strikes..., the movement has directly struck at the economic and logistic establishments of the US-quislings and seriously paralyzed military activities in the US largest sanctuary.

ALONG with the workers and working people, pupils and students have also stood up for university autonomy, against military training, drafting of professors and students, murders of Vietnamese by GI's and US aggression and for the withdrawal of American troops from South Viet Nam...

The agitation erupted right in Saigon and quickly spread to other cities and province capitals. Participants in class-boycotts from 6,000 students of the Saigon Medical Faculty at the start rose to 60,000 of the Saigon, Van Hanh, Hue, Can Tho... Universities within a few months. In sympathy with the students' dissent, hundreds of thousands of pupils in secondary schools in the cities and province capitals throughout South Viet Nam staged a general strike, and several indignation meetings and demonstrations.

Besides "vigils" and "bonfires," students and pupils also used motor bicycles to carry thousands of people through police cordons and barbed wire road blocks so that they could join in demonstrations in front of the US Embassy, the puppet National Assembly, Ministries of Education and Justice, and military court, for the release of students illegally arrested and the punishment of American murderers.

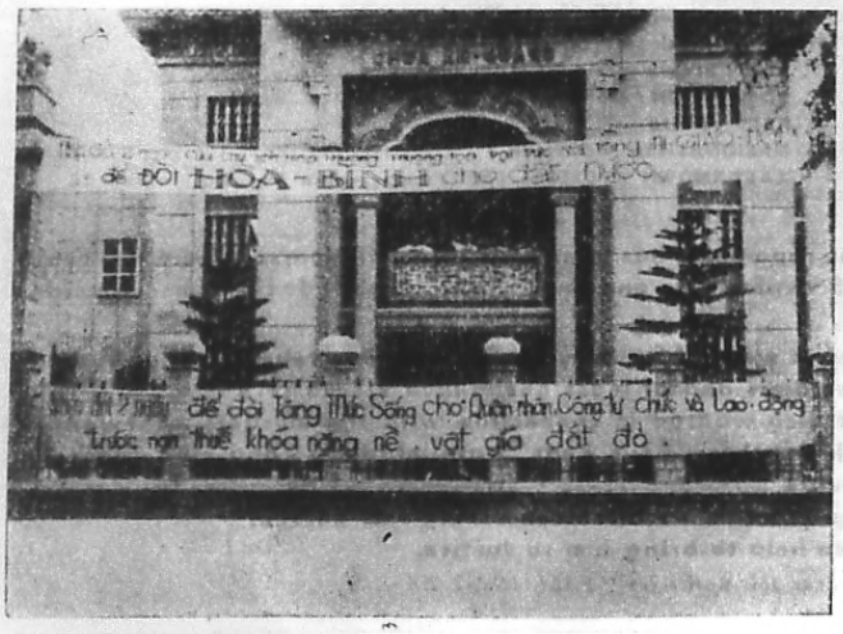
The students also set up altars, put on mourning turbans and held a requiem mass for Vietnamese residents massacred by the Lon Nol Sirik Matak regime in Cambodia. They occupied the Lon Nol Embassy in Saigon during 10 consecutive days and used it as headquarters for their actions against US-Thieu aggression and the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak crimes.

Making use of legal forms of protest, students and pupils turned the funeral of former puppet President Phan Khac Suu into an anti-US parade. The marchers overtly denounced Thieu as a traitor who, on US orders, had been drafting students and youths into the army to die in the place of GI's. They openly branded E. Bunker as a proconsul, a governor general, and pointed out that Nixon's "Vietnamization" would only prolong the US aggressive war, and that Viet Nam was not the 51st state of the US. They condemned Thieu-Ky-Khiem as "barbarous, inhuman rulers" and held that as this administration broke away from the past, was out of touch with the present and had no sense of the future it had no raison d'être... Most dramatically ebullient has been the student agitation against US aggression and war expansion throughout Indochina, against the Nixon doctrine to "use Asians to fight Asians," to "pit Indochinese against Indochinese."

The Saigon administration has resorted to police brutalities, and arrested a number of the movement leaders, without being able to weaken the South Viet Nam youth's combativeness. The latter used all that they had in their hands such as bottles of jellied petrol, sticks, stones... against the police.

IN addition, the Buddhists' drive against the US aggressive war, for the restoration of peace had also been widespread in Saigon and other cities. Typical were the big demonstrations by tens of thousands of Buddhist believers in Saigon, Hue, Da Nang on the occasion of Buddha's Birthday (May 19, 1970) and of the funeral on June 14 of Bonze Thich Thien Lai who had burned himself to death in protest against the US-puppet atrocious regime. The procession, embracing nearly 25,000 Buddhists and hundreds of thousands of other people, was made into a 20km-long parade. Streamers reading "Famine, poverty, iniquities and prostitution are US civilization in South Viet Nam," "Let's rise up to demand the right to live," "If foreign troops (US) pull out, peace will immediately return to Viet Nam"..., displayed by the marchers, clearly testified to the strongest ever anti-US feeling among the Buddhist circle in South Viet Nam.

The heavier setbacks the US-quislings suffer in all fields, the more fascist and bellicose they become. They ruthlessly victimize those who dare to set their faces against them, and those who favour peace, independence and neutrality. As a result, several opposition organizations such as the People's Front for Peace, the Committee for the People's Right To Live, the Committee for the Improvement of the Prison Regime, the Movement for Women's Right To Live, the Movement for National Self-Determination, the Federation of Buddhist Public or Private Employees and Women Office Employees... came into being one after another and drew a large following from various social sections. They held conferences, teach-ins and put out communiqués against the US war prolongation and expansion in Indochina. They flayed US presence in Viet Nam as the main cause of deaths, sufferings and devastations there, and urged that all American troops quit South Viet Nam so that the Vietnamese people can settle their own affairs themselves without foreign interference.



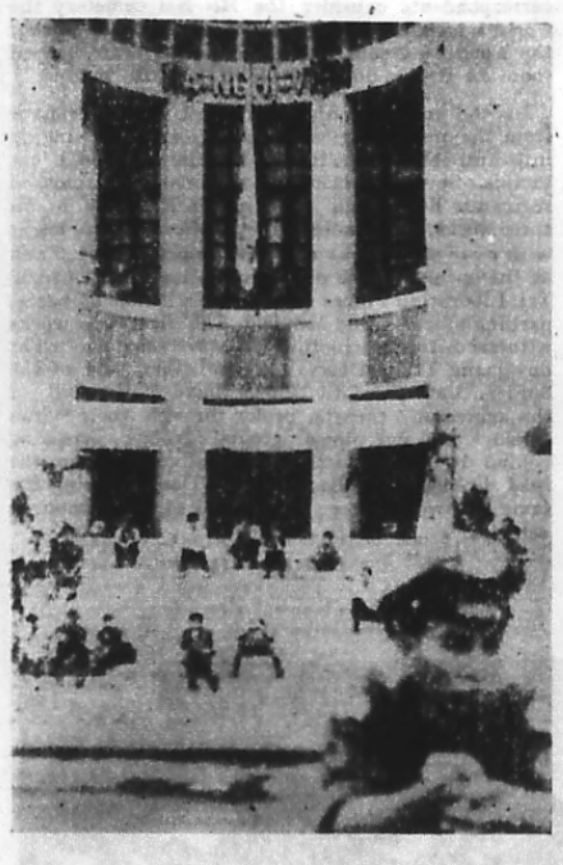
Ebullient struggle of Buddhist believers in Saigon and other South Viet Nam cities.

On the picture: the "An Quang Pagoda" banderols with the inscription: "Let's pray for Peace" and "Improvement of the urban population's living conditions!"

AS for the press, despite frequent seizures of newspapers, repeated fines and even extremely brutal persecution, it has constantly echoed the voice of justice of people of various sections and laid bare US-puppet vicious schemes.

Many papers published in full the 8-point initiative of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam put forward by

This policeman turns away from Saigon Students' demonstration against Thieu-Ky-Khiem in front of the "National Assembly." He looks depressed, having received no salary for months.



Minister Nguyen Thi Binh at the September 17, 1970 session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. Present fundamental political issues such as withdrawal of American troops, formation in Saigon of an administration which is for peace, independence, neutrality and democracy... have also been extensively discussed by Saigon newspapers.

Over the past year, tens of thousands of puppet disabled armymen, together with widows of war dead, have been continuously fighting against ill-treatment, demolition of their houses and deprivation of their means of living. They streamed to the office of the Saigon "National Assembly" to denounce the puppet administration's atrocities and urged satisfaction of their demands. Series of marches, fasts, "head-shaving" drives, disembowelling, vein-cutting... by puppet war invalids have taken place in Saigon and other cities of South Viet Nam. The Saigon authorities have tried savage repression, deception or bribery but they have not been able to stamp out the unrest.

Many puppet "deputies," prominent personalities, intellectuals and traders have also been pressing for the withdrawal of American troops and removal of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem trio.

THE mounting popular protest in Saigon and other cities of South Viet Nam reflects a unique development of the spirit of historic March 19. It testifies to the tradition of indomitableness of our people, the sense of broad unity among different social segments rallied against US aggression. Aware of the profound significance and impact of political action, people in Saigon and other cities in South Viet Nam have been unceasingly waving the banner of independence and peace, persistingly stepping up their multiform fight. In close co-ordination with the People's Liberation Armed Forces they will drive the US aggressors and their agents into an irremediable defensive, isolated and weakened posture.

Saigon has had the honour of initiating the anti-US struggle of our people and now is leading other cities in South Viet Nam in the movement for independence and peace. Saigon is worthy of bearing the name of Great President Ho Chi Minh.

Glory to the people of Saigon, the historic Ho Chi Minh city!

Long live the spirit of March 19!

The US imperialists will be certainly defeated!

The three Indochinese peoples will be surely victorious!.

NIEN NGUYEN

IN SOUTH VIET NAM CITIES ★ IN SOUTH VIET NAM CITIES

EMERGENCE OF A MOVEMENT AGAINST WAR AND GENERAL MOBILIZATION

A movement against war and general mobilization involving university and middle - school students and young labourers made its appearance in Saigon on March 10.

"A million young South Vietnamese have already died for the interests of the United States," its manifesto said. It sternly condemned the US-Saigon war escalation, urged the withdrawal of South Viet Nam mercenary troops from Laos and Cambodia, and called on the urban youth to rise up against the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta who turned them into cannon-fodder for the USA.

THE PRESS STIFLED

After abrogating the decree on press regulations, the quisling administration kept on seizing series of newspaper issues, and press censorship continued as drastic as ever. This situation was the cause of a Saigon Senate plenary session on March 5 for a debate on the "information and press" regime. Many senators took to task the prevailing regime and discrimination against "opposition" papers. In the meantime repressive measures went on unabated: on March 3, 4 dailies were fined from 100,000 to 1,100,000 piasters. Hardest hit was *Tin Sang* (Morning News).

HIGHER TAXES ON NECESSITIES

To help fill serious war-budget gaps, Thieu-Ky-Khiem raised taxes on a variety of imported goods, which sent soaring the prices of a lot of commodities. The price of petrol went up by 30 to 50 %, imported rice by 31 %, brown and white sugar by respectively 66 % and 100 %, cement by 21 %. As a result, series of other commodities of prime necessity followed suit, which made bad worse for the population in US-occupied zone.

Members of the Eastern Medecine Workers' Trade-Union of My Tho city lately met to protest against high taxes. Many denounced them as a means of exploiting the townsfolk. The participants unanimously decided to return their trade-licences.

BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS CLAIMED BY SAIGON ARMY'S WAR WOUNDED

On March 5, puppet army's war wounded resumed their agitation for a better standard of living A dozen or so broke into the "National Assembly." They demanded that the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration put an end to ill-treatment and satisfy their claims, for which they said they would fight to a finish.

PROTEST AGAINST US CRIMES

On Feb. 24, the Liberation Women's Union of Can Tho put out a declaration condemning the killing of nurse Vo Thi Phuong by an American and similar crimes in this city of West Nam Bo. The declaration called on women and the local population as a whole to engrave US crimes deep in their hearts, to close their ranks and impel their struggle for the pull-out of American and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, replacement of Thieu-Ky-Khiem, and restoration of peace.

Information and cultural work in 1970 reviewed

THE Ministry of Information and Culture of the Republic of South Viet Nam recently held an enlarged meeting to review its work in the past year and map out directives and tasks for 1971.

Mr Luu Huu Phuoc, Minister of Information and Culture, read a report which said in part:

"In the past year, under the leadership of the Front and administration at all levels throughout South Viet Nam, information and cultural workers zealously served the political tasks and contributed to the fighting against the enemy 'special pacification' and to the building of our forces at the basis, especially in villages and hamlets.

In cities, patriotic cultural and artistic activities made substantial gains in extensiveness and variety among various sections of the people.

Information, cultural and artistic work was timely readjusted its contents and modes of activities to the new situation and tasks, especially to the fight against 'pacification' in villages and hamlets.

It was geared to the political tasks, helped enhance revolutionary heroism, our age-old national cultural tradition and upheld the superiority of the revolutionary culture and arts, and uncompromisingly combated the enemy enslaving, alien, deceptive and depraved culture and arts.

In many villages and hamlets, a people's information network took shape under diversified and original forms. Vanguard propaganda teams and shock art ensembles daringly infiltrated cities, district towns and enemy-controlled rural areas to bring home the lines, positions and policies of the Front and Provisional Revolutionary Government to, and propagate, revolutionary songs among, the people.

Newsreel and reportage film shooting teams day and night covered all battlefields to record dramatic episodes of our army and people's activities.

In the past year, the PRG sent a number of liberation art ensembles and cinema delegations and several literary and artistic works to other countries to introduce our culture and arts and take part in cultural and artistic contests and performances to give the world peoples a more vivid picture of our people's just struggle."

The Conference also set general tasks for the entire Liberation Information and Cultural Branch in 1971, namely: "to make all-out efforts, grasp ever more firmly the lines, positions and policies of the Front and Government, resolutely carry out the supreme directions of President Ho Chi Minh, clarify the revolutionary outlook, perseveringly and continually uphold the heroic tradition of the nation, stimulate the people's 'determined to fight and to win' spirit, step up the 'three-prong assault', firmly maintain the offensive posture on the information, cultural and artistic front, focus our efforts on serving the immediate tasks which are to resist and foil 'special pacification', create conditions for the people to wrest back control over the countryside and at the same time to expand culture and arts, guide progressive patriotic cultural and artistic activities in the cities, vigorously impel the political, economic and cultural movement of the urban and rural population, and on that basis, to train personnel to consolidate and build the information, cultural and artistic branch and stand ready to cope with all eventualities. The conference also worked out concrete measures to fulfil the branch's 1971 tasks.

HELICOPTER AND ARMOUR TACTICS FOILED ON ALL INDOCHINESE BATTLEFIELDS

ON the various battlefields of Indochina, the American aggressors have been applying this strategic formula: mercenary ground troops + US support, the latter component being, in the main, the carrying into effect of the "helicopter" and "armour tactics."

These are no novelties. When US "special warfare" reached its highest level of fierceness in South Viet Nam, the Pentagon's strategists already used the said tactics which were put to an extremely hard test. In the invasion of Cambodia since May 1970, they have been utilizing the same methods without inspiring results. In the current invasion of Laos, the Americans and their quislings are resorting again to choppers and armoured cars. In Southern Laos, realities in the field point to their inaptitude.

AMERICAN strategists who highly value the **helicopter tactics** think it capable, in a comparatively short period, of bringing all combat troops with their battle gear to the field at the same time, thus providing the infantry with strong firepower to launch lightning, surprise and massive onsets. Besides, the helicopter tactics is believed to be able to assume its role in scouting, transport, supply and fire support promptly and effectively throughout the fighting process. Inflating the efficiency of helicopters, US brasshats maintain that *they may snatch victory from the very jaws of defeat and that they can change the face of conventional wars not only in Viet Nam at present but also elsewhere in the future.*

To wage the war of aggression in South Viet Nam, US imperialism has brought here more than 3,000 helicopters of all descriptions. One can say that in no other war did the United States deploy such large a number.

However, what has been happening in all South Viet Nam theatres of operations has unmistakably demonstrated that the helicopter tactics regarded as a US "invention" after World War II, an "invention" commanding the Pentagon's special interest has come to a flop. According to Western news agencies, *between January 1961 and November 3, 1970, 4,112 choppers were downed or destroyed and 4,300 men aboard killed* (including 5 of the 8 American generals killed in combat) in South Viet Nam. These figures, although inferior to actual ones, are proof enough of extremely high US losses in this kind of war means in proportion to its troop strength in South Viet Nam, and the indifferent efficiency of the "helicopter tactics," for too high losses in material usually lead to the upsetting of tactics.

Since the Ap Bac battle fought in the Mekong Delta on January 2, 1963, Western opinion and more particularly the opinion of military circles has expressed doubt about the choppers' effectiveness.

US General Abrams' tanks and armoured cars cemetery in South Viet Nam

In that operation that US troops mounted to take by surprise a "VC" regional unit, they lost **20 choppers and 450 men** in exchange for "insignificant results." In ensueing annihilation actions against US airborne troops in *Ben Tre* (Mekong Delta), at *Plei Me* and *Dakto* (Western High Plateaux), at *Kohava* and *Abia* (Quang Tri — Thua Thien — Hue), etc., helicopters were downed in great numbers and American infantry badly mauled. The helicopter has never had the "extraordinary," "overpowering effect on the VC" expected by the Pentagon. The helicopter, "flying-phoenix" and "leap frog"* tactics have failed one after the other. In the present invasion of Laos supported by **500 helicopters** and **1,500 fighter planes** the US-puppet soldiery have not been able to progress, nor set up *points d'appui* with airborne troops, and Saigon forces to inch forward. The planned occupation of Tchepone, the number one target of the undertaking was still far from being realized one month after the operation was started. With the deployment of so many choppers of all kinds ranging from the CH-53 to the AH-1A and the CH-47A, the Americans and their valets have been incapable of quick reaction and effective rescue actions, and forced to leave mercenary troops short of manpower, food supplies, even sand bags and barbed wire, and look on as one after another of their battalions get knocked down. Thus, the effect of "decisive importance" of the helicopter tactics has been belied on Highway 9. Clearly, American choppers have proved unable to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat on this battlefield. Over 300 choppers grounded here in twenty days in February are a figure eloquent enough in itself.

THE **armour tactics** has been the main one used by US ground troops in their attacks on the South Viet Nam battlefields over the past several years in order to increase American firepower and surface mobility. In face of the GIs' downgrading morale owing to accumulated reverses in their unjust war, the US has been paying till greater attention to augmenting and making the most of the impact of the "iron shield" constituted by armoured cars of various kinds. The American Command has fielded tanks and armoured vehicles in "unlimited" quantities with a view, tactically, to give them the role of a "drill" in attack and counter-attacks, and of a a "shield" for ground troops, in action, in camps, or on the defensive and for logistical convoys.

Confronted with the fierce resistance of the people and South Viet Nam Liberation Forces not only US tanks and armoured cars have been incapable of keeping their power and protecting the infantry, but have even become sitting ducks for guerillas and regional troops. They have been destroyed in substantially increasing numbers year after year, which have already hit the 10,000-mark and thus heralded the bankruptcy of the armour tactics. The Bau Bang battle (November 12, 1965) some twenty miles from Saigon is regarded as the first "bloody test" of this tactics: two US armoured units were wiped out wholesale along with two American battalions. Then came the putting out of commission of 200 tanks and armoured cars in Tay Ninh during Operation **Junction City**, and that of mechanized units at Binh Long (East Nam Bo), in the Western High Plateaux and the plains of Central Trung Bo. All that illustrates the poor performance of armour in the South Viet Nam war theatre. General Abrams, once an "experienced" tank commander and an admirer of this tactics, is also the one who has dug the biggest number of graves for armoured vehicles in South Viet Nam — Western correspondents consider the Ho Nai cemetery the world's largest for war materials (In one month, the Americans sold 10,948 tons of hardware heaped there for 67,560 dollars — *AFP*, July 26, 1969).

In the invasion of Laos the US-puppets have from the outset concentrated efforts on bringing into full play the impact of the armoured-car tactics. Several American and Saigon armoured regiments have been mustered on Highway 9. In three weeks, nevertheless, they suffered severe losses with **over 300 tanks and cars knocked out.** Even at the opening phase of the operation, North Quang Tri Liberation Forces struck at a series of bases, parking stations and convoys. The first two weeks witnessed the destruction of *more than* 200 right on Quang Tri territory. On the other side of the border, Lao patriotic forces have halted all of the aggressors' thrusts, broke through their "iron shield" to cut down ground troops marching behind it, while hitting hard at convoys on the road linking Lao Bao to Ban Dong. During the same two weeks they took a toll of 100 armoured vehicles.

Scrap-heap of copters downed by the South Viet Nam PLAF

Armed with such "shield" and a "drill," Saigon mercenaries have been practically marking time around Ban Dong, while crack units got killed in camp or — a forerunner of the inevitable failure of the armour tactics in this tough trial of strength.

THE fiasco of the "armour and that of the helicopter tactics" are inter-related. One influences the other and the bankruptcy of these two main tactics will surely lead to that of the infantry,

The Americans and their hirelings have sustained reverses because they have had to cope with the "incredible stamina" of the people's war. When the People's Liberation Armed Forces keep their eyes skinned, and stand prepared, when there exists among the population a widespread movement to hunt with all available weapons and all combat methods enemy aircraft, whether in the wing or on the ground, no American tactics based on aeroplanes can work.

Similarly, when the guerillas have bazookas, when little boys and girls can lay mine-traps, when liberation troops are out for armoured cars, in parks or on the road, on communication lines as inside urban centres, no tactics based on armour can save the Americans from total defeat.

The fate of the US strategic formula: mercenary ground troops + American support now being put into effect on the Indochinese battlefields is sealed. This support is the soul of the mercenary infantry, and when it has lost its effect, what can one conceivably expect of the latter?

THANH HONG

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* *Tactics which consists in establishing mobile, temporary* points d'appui *with airborne troops who decamp when threatened with destruction by liberation forces.*

A Tardy Message to Vietnamese Friends

For too long you were only
a western problem for us
an abstraction
the reward and right of the Allied
in the Far East, so remote from us
– to want Viet Nam
was not too high a claim
after all that the Allied
had done for us, here so near to us
It was the song in Northern Europe

And even if the draftee from Senegal
put in his first shoes,
on the page of stop press news
his necklace of shells
swapped for a cartridge belt
and his eyes asking us
whether it was a real need of ours
that he should kill his bare-footed Vietnamese brother
– those African eyes haunted us
in this year nineteen fifty four
an image of Dien Bien Phu
and yet we spoke the Churchillian way
his speech was our armour
against the naked eyes of the world
Viet Nam was far remote and thin
like a paper tape
whence the only raison d'etre was
to carry the noble adjectives
between Winston and Ike
on the "gallant fight" of our French allies etc

Then the Green Berets' laboratory
Viet Nam as dilemma
bitter legacy of the US
in a thankless corner of the world
a market – the Mekong scheme

... this Pentagon's jargon has thus concealed
to the peoples of the world
the people of Viet Nam

Then belatedly we see
the real face of Viet Nam
your sufferings your rage
your history
in the Viet Nam conception of man
We have seen your young girls
so gracefully
trust the sprouts to mud
We have seen your school-boys
in steel pellet-proof straw helmets
and their smiles
as if this burden were as light as a feather
Vast expanses of your land
are now so denuded
that a man will not find a twig
to screen his human features
from the Pentagon cobra trying to spot him from the sky
his camouflage is ash and mud
but under the appearence of a charred tree
pulsa es a heart
exults a human being
triumphs a brand-new humanity

We have seen the comrade
squeeze light out of the dynamo
with feet and pedals
for the physician to extract
murderous US steel
from the Vietnamese body
And three storeys deep underground
where neither the Pentagon poisons
nor its hounds can reach
there are the mothers of our times
in the year 1970
after Mary's descent to the stable
suckling the children of our times

Oh earth old mother
singing for the child of the world
fresh air
the departure of the foe
the return of the father
dear child one day
we'll go in the day time
and cut the rice
while there is daylight

Starvelings of all countries
from Senegal to Brazil
from Corfu to Johannesburg
the whole world is rocked
by the pulse of the heart Viet Nam

This people are shaping a new life on earth
possible and even valid

Mother Viet Nam
as you wash your paddies of toxic chemicals
you purify our notion of man

SARA LIDMAN

Lush Ricefields in the Highlands

ARRIVED on the top of the slope, I was surprised to see an elongated field where golden rice-plants stretched like a silk ribbon between Tom Xi and A Renh mounts. Now I was delighted to leave the deep forest and to breathe whiffs of cool air on the fragrant field. Though I had lived in vast plains where paddies spread up to the skyline, I was amazed by this small field. Behind me was a primitive forest but in front of me was a plain bubbling with life. The rice-plants were ripening, laden with promising ears. Him, the head of the mutual-aid team in Hamlet A kept however silent.

As I marvelled at a green rice plot, Him nodded:

"It's the same variety. Just look at the tender leaves, hard stem, long ears..."

"One month after it was transplanted," he added, "the Americans came and dropped commandos. Our guerillas downed two helicopters and wiped out a squad of these intruders on A Renh and Tom Xi mounts. Then planes came and one bomb exploded here. Its crater was filled up and seedlings retransplanted there."

Glancing at the height, which witnessed the villagers' exploits, I saw eroded slopes and seared patches of jungle. But despite the ubiquitous devastation by the US aggressors, the rice was lush and the Ki Xin spring limpid.

"Rice farming is a good thing," Him said. "We Ka Tu can now till as the Kinh. But it was truly hard at first...

"At that time, our people did not believe in rice cultivation. They were made to weigh the pros and cons in such debates as the harm done by the milpa practice to the mountains, to the Resistance War; the usefulness of rice farming for the Resistance War; the villagers' ability for rice tilling.

"As a matter of fact, the soil is infertile here:

The Ki Xin spring flows endlessly,
So the monkeys leave the Tom Xi.

"One measure of seed yielded two measures of rice. Only three to four years after its planting did cassava give tubers. Nearly all the forest was burnt, giving way to elephant grass. In the rainy season mountain slopes slided one after the other. A whole year's toiling produced food for a few months. Now the Front tells us to farm rice to be well fed. Everybody trusts it for it has only told the truth over the past ten years.

"Rice cultivation has become a topic discussed at the festivities in the communal house and at all meetings, let alone in each family. Mrs Henh, for instance, supported it, having seen lowlanders profitably practise it, while her husband was against.

"A Duh, a revolutionary since the French were here, had to canvass every family. Then he set up a team of 15 volunteers to have a try at rice growing.

"A competition took place between them and those engaged in kaingin farming.

"Guerillas and youths exerted themselves to prepare gun emplacements for anti-aircraft defence and shelters for the farmers. A party was sent to learn rice cultivation. A house was built near the field to save the labourers the trouble of going home during the experiment. A technician was sent by the district to provide guidance and all necessary materials were supplied. As a result the team reaped twice and a half times with one-sixth of the seeds as compared with those working on the swidden.

"After bringing in their share of rice the Henhs sat by the fire place. The wife asked her little child whom she was suckling:

"'Which rice do you want me to cook?'

"The husband turned to her and said:

"'Well, don't say any more about it'.

"The team saw its ranks swell with every passing day. It had to hold its meetings at the communal house and even so there was not enough room for everyone. Now it had to overcome new difficulties: use of buffaloes for the ploughing, manuring of the field, digging of ditches to get water for it, and so on. At last, we had a fairly vast field."

Him was treading on air.

"This mountain trail is still hard to climb. We shall enlarge the path over there to let the buffalo carry manure to the field and bring in the harvest instead of using our shoulders."

A settled Ka Tu village flashed in my mind, complete with its orchards on a windy hill near a primitive forest. It leaned its back on the Tom Xi mount and looked at the ripening field like a silk ribbon meandering along the Ki Xin spring.

Rice growing on filled-up bomb craters

SOUTH VIET NAM :

On the Khe Sanh front in 45 days:

- ⊙ **More than 3,000 enemy troops, including 2,000 yanks put out of combat.**
- ⊙ **Nearly 100 aircraft shot down or destroyed and 350 military vehicles wrecked.**

ACCORDING to a communiqué of the Khe Sanh Front's PLAF Command on March 16, 1971 in co-ordination with the Lao People's Army in Southern Laos and since the US and Saigon puppets mustered their armed forces on Highway 9, the PLAF on the Khe Sanh Front (South Viet Nam) have repeatedly attacked the enemy, causing to him heavy losses both in live force and war means.

After 45 days of fighting, the PLAF have put out of combat more than 3,000 enemy troops, including 2,000 yanks, neatly wiped out the 39th Ranger Battalion, badly mauled enemy infantry, armour and artillery units, made prisoner more than 100 enemy troops, shot down or destroyed nearly 100 aircraft, captured a number of pilots, wrecked 350 military vehicles, including more than 100 tanks and armoured cars, sank 23 cargo ships, burned down 20 logistic depots (including big storages) dumping millions of litres of gasoline or tens of thousands of cannon shells. The PLAF also captured large quantities of weapons, ammunition. Hundreds of enemy troops have surrendered and crossed over to the people's side.

The communiqué then called on the PLAF fighters and local population to deal at the enemy still heavier blows, driving him to greater confusion and stalemate.

The Khe Sanh Front PLAF Command on March 16 also issued an appeal calling on officers and men of the Saigon puppet army on that battlefront to realize the inevitable fiasco of the aggressors, to return their guns against the US invaders and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique and cross over to the people's side.

On the **High Plateaux** on February 28, the PLAF besieged the 1st Battalion, 42nd puppet Regiment on Hill 935, some 25km southeast of Dakto district town. At 2 p.m on March 1st the liberation forces overran the hill, neatly wiping out this battalion. More than 70 enemy troops were taken prisoner and many weapons seized. The battalion commander was among the enemy casualties.

In the first four days of this month in Ngoc To Ba area, *Kontum province*, they killed, wounded or captured 700 enemy, wiping out one puppet battalion and heavily decimating two others.

In addition, over 1,600 US-puppet troops were captured, 4 aircraft brought down, 6 big guns demolished, and nearly 200 firearms of all kinds, 41 signal apparatuses seized.

The US-puppets suffer heavy losses in men and materials on all the Indochinese fronts.

LAOS :

— Nearly 7,000 enemy troops killed, wounded or made prisoner.

— More than 300 aircraft shot down or wrecked on the ground.

— 210 military vehicles, half of them tanks and armoured cars, destroyed and damaged.

ON the Southern Laos battlefront, the LPLA dealt crippling blows at the US and Saigon puppets when the latter crossed the border. Running into a withering A-A fire network, the ballyhooed "airborne tactics" suffered heavy setbacks, as admitted by the Western press. And 64 US helicopters were brought down on Feb. 8 and 10 alone.

Armoured cars and enemy paratroopers in the central prong of the operation along Highway 9 were fiercely intercepted. In the three days ending Feb. 11, more than 40 military vehicles, mostly tanks and armoured cars, together with 5 enemy companies, were knocked down in Kaki bridge area.

On the night of February 12, the Lao patriots wiped out 2 enemy airborne and ranger battalions of the Saigon puppets in Cha Ki and La Tuong areas. Earlier, on February 11, they made short work of one Vientiane puppet battalion in Muong Pha Lan area, destroying an enemy coordinating prong west of Highway 9.

On February 25, the LPLA wiped out the 3rd Battalion and the headquarters of the Saigon puppet 3rd Paratroop Brigade on Hill 456, captured the colonel brigade commander and the whole brigade staff. The northern prong of the US-puppets was thus shattered.

In face of these heavy setbacks, the enemy's morale began sinking fast, and the US and Saigon puppets had to rush a "special brigade" to strengthen the prong in Ban Dong area which was on the brink of annihilation.. With an accurate coordination between their infantry, artillery, anti-aircraft defence and armour, the Lao patriotic forces knocked out the 17th Armour Brigade and one part of the 11th Armour Brigade and the 8th Battalion of the Saigon 2nd Paratroop Brigade. They even captured dozens of undamaged and armoured vehicles. The US and puppets' "armour tactics" thus received a smashing blow.

In the southern prong, the Lao liberation forces floored the 3rd Regiment of the Saigon puppet 1st Infantry Division. Two battalions of this regiment were knocked out and the third heavily trounced.

On Highway 9 itself, from Lao Bao to Ban Dong, the enemy positions were repeatedly assaulted by the liberation forces. The enemy encampments in Ban Dong area were also hit, hundreds of enemy troops were killed or injured, dozens of military vehicles and many supply storages were destroyed or damaged.

The situation was so critical that the US and Saigon puppets had to hurl Saigon puppet marines into the fray. Result: 3 "sea hornet" companies were stung on Hill 550 south of Highway 9.

The enemy "leap frog" tactics also was foiled west of Ban Dong, with nearly 80 enemy aircraft shot down from March 1st to 6th.

CAMBODIA :

US - Saigon Operation "1 - 1971 Complete Victory" totally foiled

ACCORDING to *AKI* : US-Saigon Operation "January 1971 Complete Victory" against the liberated area of Cambodia (Kompong Cham and Kratie provinces) was completely defeated by the Cambodian people and army.

Since February, 1971, the US-puppets have massed over 20,000 soldiers belonging to 30 battalions of infantry, artillery, engineers, and 3 armoured car regiments of both Saigon and Phnom Penh puppets. Fully and strongly supported by the US Air Forces, this operation against Cambodia mainland in order to clear Highway 7, and rescue the Phnom Penh troops was battered everywhere. Having these large forces at hands, Do Cao Tri, Saigon lieutenant general commanding the operation boasted: "I believe in the success of my army... By May 15, the clearance of Highway 7 will end in a way impossible for the adversary to rally" (*UPI*-8/2).

Right in the first week of the operation, however, they were fiercely intercepted on their way to Kompong Cham by the Cambodian National Liberation Armed Forces. As a result, the Saigon Ranger 38th Battalion in Nui village was wiped out while two other battalions in Chup and Snoul were heavily decimated. In terms of war means, 3 enemy convoys in Kokabram and 13th village were attacked with some 40 military vehicles destroyed. The CNLAF, in addition, assaulted two Saigon puppet squadron headquarters, and drove them out of Chup, an important objective of the operation.

The enemy in the direction of Kratie was also broken with two infantry battalions, one border-guarding ranger battalion and one Saigon puppet armoured car section heavily trounced in Snoul and on the Krek Snoul range of Highway 7 within February 8, 14 and 15.

In short, just within 10 days, the people and army of Kratie and Kompong Cham killed or wounded 2,000 Saigon troops, destroyed more than 200 military vehicles including some 150 armoured cars, 17 cannons and shot down 5 aircraft.

Failing in their plan to take Chup and Snoul, the US-puppets changed their tactics: their troops were positioned like a bow along Highway 7 from Suong to Snoul. Nevertheless, they could not avoid punishing blows from Cambodian NLAF. In ten days ending February 27, the enemy in Rokabram, Damber, Tapao and Lo Than took heavy casualties with Ranger Battalions 33 and 36 and two armoured car squadrons put out of action, Battalions 31, 51 and 52 fiercely decimated, 348 military vehicles blown up and 10 aircraft brought down.

Facing with this grave situation, on February 23, Do Cao Tri hurriedly flew to Cambodia to assume the direct command of the rescue but his helicopter was brought down by the Tay Ninh liberation armed forces on its way, and he and many other brasshat officers lost their lives.

Repeatedly struck, the US-puppets had to feverishly dispatch their troops from Kampot as reinforcement, but they were intercepted by forces of the Cambodian people and army near Wat Thmey. 300 enemy of the 3rd Battalion of the 4th Regiment and two armoured car squadrons were wiped out. Meanwhile, the NLAF of Cambodia artillery fired and assaulted Snoul, knocking out the 4th Battalion, 8th Regiment, and heavily damaged the position of the Saigon 9th Squadron.

Following up these successes, the Cambodian army on March 2nd and 3rd succeedingly intercepted the puppets fleeing on the Wat Thmey and Pra-Thiet areas, annihilating one company, inflicting one battalion with 300 enemy casualties, wrecking 39 military vehicles.

Incomplete figures showed that from February 4 to March 3, the Kompong Cham and Kratie people and armed forces wiped out 5 infantry battalions and 3 armoured car squadrons, heavily decimated 13 infantry battalions and 8 armoured car squadrons, killed or wounded some 8,000 enemy troops, set ablaze or blown up 950 military vehicles among them 500 tanks and armoured cars, shot down 50 aircraft, destroyed dozens of fuel dumps and 100 artillery pieces, sank 13 warships.

According to *UPI*-10/3, the US-puppets admitted that their "operation against the VC sanctuary in Cambodia had to be called off because of communist violent resistance."

CHINESE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISITS THE DRVN

AT the invitation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a delegation of the Communist Party of China and the Government of the People's Republic of China led by Chou En-lai, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Premier of the State Council of the PRC, paid a friendship visit to the DRVN from March 5 to 8, 1971.

During its stay in the DRVN, the Delegation called on President Ton Duc Thang, the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly and Government of the DRVN, the Military Commission of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee, an anti-aircraft unit of the Viet Nam people's Army and the "March 8" Textile Mill in Hanoi.

On March 8, the Chinese Party and Government Delegation held talks with the Vietnamese Party and Government Delegation on the present situation in Indochina and on problems of common concern to both Viet Nam and China. The talks took place in an extremely cordial and friendly atmosphere and the two delegations issued a joint communique.

After sternly denouncing the new step of war escalation of the US imperialists in Laos and the other Indochinese countries, the joint communique pointed out:

"The two parties strongly condemned the Nixon government's criminal acts of expansion of the war of aggression in Indochina, and looked into the serious situation in the Indochinese area arising from these acts. They had a full assessment of the recklessness and madness of the Nixon government and discussed and reached complete identity of views on questions related to the coping with the acts of military adventure which the US imperialists might take.

"The Government of the DRVN solemnly declares the following: Acting upon Venerated President Ho Chi Minh's Last Wishes, the Vietnamese people are resolved to defeat the policy of aggression and all war escalation steps of the US aggressors and their flunkeys, and bring their struggle against US aggression, for national salvation, to complete victory. The Vietnamese people, standing shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Lao and Khmer peoples, are resolved to drive the US imperialists out of the Indochinese peninsula. No brutal force on earth, no insolent threat can shake the iron-like will of the peoples of the there Indochinese countries who are determined to fight to the end to defend their sacred national rights.

"The Chinese Government and people firmly support the February 10, 1971 Statement of the DRVN Government and the March 4, 1971 Statement of the DRVN National Assembly, which strongly condemned the US imperialists for expanding their aggressive war in Indochina. The Chinese side affirms that aiding the resistance against US aggression and for national salvation of the peoples of Viet Nam and the other Indochinese countries is an unswerving guideline of the Chinese Communist Party and Government, and an unshirkable internationalist duty of the Chinese people. The Chinese people decidedly do not allow the arrogant US aggressors to do whatever they please in Indochina. If the US imperialists obdurately go down the road of expanding their war of aggression in Indochina, the Chinese people will resolutely take all necessary measures, not flinching even from greatest national sacrifices, to give all-out support and assistance to the Vietnamese people and the other Indochinese peoples until the thorough defeat of the US aggressors."

After strongly condemning the US imperialists' criminal acts in Indochina and re-affirming all-out support to the struggle of the peoples in Indochina, Asia, Africa, Latin America and other countries against the US imperialist aggressors and warmly hailing the Vietnamese people's great victories, the communique said:

"The South Vietnamese people, with their most gallant revolutionary spirit, persisting in a people's war under very hard conditions, have engaged in a long and fierce test of strength with the US imperialists and their lackeys, knocking daylights out of them, and driving them into a very bad fix. At present, the heroic South Vietnamese people, united around the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, are dashing forward with the impetus of their victories, fighting valiantly, 'so that the Yanks quit and the puppets topple.'"

In conclusion, the joint communique re-affirmed:

"The Chinese people consider their support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's war against US aggression, for national salvation and socialist construction, as their unshirkable internationalist duty, which they must fulfil.

"Both sides noted with great satisfaction that the revolutionary friendship and militant solidarity between the two Parties, Governments and the peoples of Viet Nam and China fostered in the long common struggle against imperialist aggression have been constantly consolidated and developed.

"This friendship and solidarity built up personally by the Vietnamese people's great leader President Ho Chi Minh and by the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung has been established on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, has stood long trials and nothing can break it.

"Both sides unanimously express their determination to further strengthen and develop the great friendship and militant solidarity between the two Parties, Governments and peoples of Viet Nam and China, with a view to thoroughly defeating the US imperialists and their quislings.

"Both sides firmly believe that the Chinese Party and Government Delegation's present friendly visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam constituted new contribution to the strengthening of militant solidarity between the peoples of Viet Nam and China, to the further consolidation and strengthening of the fraternal relations between the two countries, and a new contribution to the common struggle against US imperialism and its lackeys."

VIET NAM — CHINA
fervid friendship

THE South Vietnamese armed forces and people enthusiastically hailed the visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam by the Delegation of the Communist Party and Government of the People's Republic of China led by Premier Chou En-lai, standing member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party. The Delegation brought to our people the great encouragement, lofty friendship, staunch militant solidarity and resolute support of the Communist Party, Government and fraternal people of China.

The South Vietnamese people followed with keen interest the tremendous achievements of the 70-million people of Great China. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party with Chairman Mao Tsetung at its head, the heroic Chinese people have built their country into one with a modern industry, developed agriculture, strong national defence, advanced science and technology. China's feats in nuclear weapons and space research are truly admirable. In face of the powerful reactionary forces headed by the US imperialists, the People's Republic of China has been raising her status in the world arena. She continues to vigorously back the national liberation drives of the oppressed peoples, contributing a big share to the movement of the world peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. The Chinese people remain a close neighbour and comrade-in-arms of our people. The patriotic resistance against US aggression of our people and those of Laos and Cambodia enjoy their great, strong and efficient sympathy, support and assistance.

The well-known statement by Chairman Mao Tsetung on May 20, 1970 which scathingly scored the US imperialists' extension of the war throughout Indochina and warmly supported the just struggle of the three Indochinese peoples, hallmarked a most splendid new development of the friendship and militant solidarity between the Chinese people and the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia. In its February 12, 1971 statement the Government of the Chinese People's Republic said that, to support the patriotic resistance against US aggression of the Lao, Vietnamese and Khmer peoples is an internationalist duty that the Chinese people must fulfil. In order to speed up the complete defeat of the US-puppets, the Chinese people will take every efficient measure and make all-out efforts to help the three Indochinese peoples. Acting upon revered Chairman Mao's teaching: the 700 million Chinese make themselves into a solid mainstay for the Vietnamese people, and turn vast China into their reliable rear, the Chinese people have intensified a "help Viet Nam foil US aggression" drive, working tirelessly and doing their best to assist our people's resistance. The friendly visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam by the Delegation of the Communist Party and Government of the Chinese People's Republic constituted new evidence of the devoted support by the fraternal Chinese people to our people's patriotic resistance against US aggression and a most precious new encouragement to our people, as well as to fraternal peoples of Cambodia and Laos. It was at the same time a stern warning on the US imperialists and their stooges.

The joint communique of March 8, 1971 between the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic, of Viet Nam and the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the Government of the Chinese People's Republic brought out the determination of the peoples of Viet Nam and China to cement their friendship and boost their mutual support and assistance in the fight against their common enemy — the aggressive and bellicose US imperialists. The Chinese Party, Government and people reaffirmed that to help the patriotic resistance against US aggression of the Vietnamese and the other Indochinese peoples is an uncompromising principle of the Chinese Communist Party and Government and the Chinese people's inescapable internationalist duty. The Chinese people are resolute not to let the US imperialists do as they please in Indochina. If the US imperialists obdurately extend the aggressive war in Indochina, the Chinese people are determined to take all necessary measures including the greatest national sacrifices, to make all-out efforts to help the Vietnamese and the other Indochinese peoples completely defeat the US aggressors. The joint communique stressed that the Viet Nam problem must be settled on the basis of the ten-point overall solution and the eight-point elucidation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. The US aggressors and their satellites must be wholly and unconditionally withdrawn from South Viet Nam so that the Vietnamese people may settle their internal affairs by themselves.

We are sincerely grateful to the Party, Government and people of Great China for their sympathy, support and assistance. We are fully aware that our people's ever greater successes are associated with the substantial aid of the peoples of China and the other socialist countries, of progressive people throughout the world. In order to deserve this generous confidence, support and assistance, we shall perseveringly step up our fight, readily undergo every hardship and sacrifice, and, shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Cambodian and Lao peoples, strive to translate into deeds the exhortation of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference: "to fight and defeat the US aggressors." Under whatever circumstances, we are resolved to bring our patriotic resistance against US aggression to complete victory to liberate South Viet Nam, defend North Viet Nam and realize the ultimate peaceful reunification of our country. With the ever stronger support and assistance of the peoples of China, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and world peoples and US progressives, the three Indochinese peoples will certainly carry the day.

Extolling the splendid out-come of the friendly visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam by the Delegation of the Communist Party and Government of the Chinese People's Republic led by Premier Chou En-lai, we sincerely wish the lofty friendship and indefectible militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples to strengthen with every passing day.

The Third World in Struggle

• Over 8,000 *Filipino students* workers and office employees paraded on February 16 in Manila, against the Nixon administration's use of military bases in the Philippines for the US aggressive war in Indochina. In Mindanao, thousands of students also set fire to a library of the US Information Service there.

The Filipino patriotic forces attacked on February 28 US agents in 3 villages in Central Luzon, killing the leading thug of the area and abducted two other bravos.

• The US military authorities in *South Korea* admitted on March 1st that 2 GIs were wounded when a stranger hurled a handgrenade into a truck loaded with American troops on patrol duty in North Seoul now still occupied by the 2nd US Infantry Division.

• The *Thai People's Liberation Army* downed on February 22 a helicopter of the US agents over an area between Chiengrai and Nam provinces. The two pilots were killed, and a colonel and some majors of the Thai army seriously injured.

• As admitted by the Malayan authorities, the *Malayan patriotic forces* ambushed on February 16 a police unit on the Sun Gay river, wiping out 9 men. Earlier, in another action on the Katibat river on January 20, the guerillas killed 7 puppet troops and wounded two others.

• On February 14, 6 oil-producing countries in the *Middle-East* and *North Africa*, members of the Oil Export Organization, won an important success: the Western oil monopolists had to agree to a price increase of 2.24 dollars per barrel of oil and hand 55 % of the profits to the said countries.

• The MPLA made known in a communique, on March 4, that the *Angolan patriotic armed forces* had recently ambushed Portuguese colonialist troops on the highway from Mikonja to Sanga Plansie, Cabinda area, knocking out 6 of them.

• The *Algerian Democratic People's Republic* decided on February 24 to nationalize 51% of the capital of the French oil companies and gas sources in Algeria together with their means of gas transport.

Along with the nationalization of all the property of two American companies in November 1970, the said decision was another step to further consolidate Algeria's independence.

• Large crowds of *Sudanese* demonstrated on February 3 in Khartoum, shouting the slogans: "Down with US imperialists!," "Down with Israeli aggressors!" in protest against the latter's scheme to permanently occupy the territory of Arab countries invaded by them since 1967.

• At the 23rd Congress of the *Chilean Socialist Party*, 5 political parties belonging to the people's solidarity bloc voiced their resolve to consolidate the nation-wide united administration and resolutely frustrate all sabotage and subversive activities of the US and henchmen.

• The *Ecuador Government* continued to detain US fishing ships violating Ecuadorian territorial waters. From January 10 to February 24, 20 such piratical fishing craft were seized and the ship owners fined 940,000 dollars. The Ecuador Government demanded that the US Government close down the US military delegation in Ecuador and recall all its members.

A Committee for the Founding of the Patriotic Front and the Defence of National Rights was set up in Ecuador to establish a nation-wide front rallying all anti-imperialist forces, fighting for national sovereignty, nationalization of foreign companies and withdrawal of the US military delegation from Ecuador.

• The *Panama Government* requested the US Government to pull out from Panama its 120-member "Peace Corps" which was but a disguised spy organization. At the same time Panama discontinued all negotiations with the US on a new aviation agreement in protest against the US arbitrary decision to require Panama's commercial planes to get its permission to fly over the canal.

My American "Buddy"

THE tall young man had blue eyes and long curly hair. He wore a light grey suit of coarse material with two red back pockets; he sported on the chest a "TNGP MNVN" badge (South Viet Nam Liberation Youth badge) and around his neck a string of teeth, fangs and claws of wild beasts. This queer attire drew the attention of the crowd. He nodded smilingly to me when I passed him in the corridor of the 9th floor of the Sputnik Hotel in Moscow. This brief encounter ended there without my gaining any further information about him.

In the plane to Havana, we happened to sit side by side. He told me a lot of stories during the 24 hours' non-stop flight.

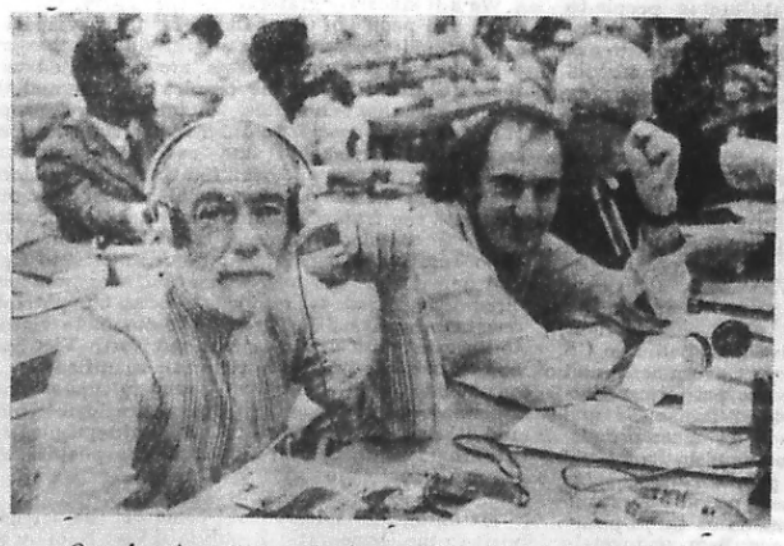
Before coming here he had been arrested by the US police for an "ordinary" incident in the American society: in Washington "Times Square" he intervened in a clash in which two "whites" were manhandling a "black" man at the 42nd Street subway station. The cops whisked the latter away but just left the two "white" racists alone. The young man and Amy Parkel, a black young woman lawyer, protested against this discrimination and were dragged to a police station though his skin was fair enough. After interrogation, he was fined for "rioting." As he could not pay, he was jailed. It was past midnight.

This incident occurred a few days before December 20. He remembered saying to the police: "It is because there's too much lawlessness here that we are in need of a revolution."

He attended a meeting commemorating the 10th founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam NFL on Manhattan islet in the Hudson River facing a women's 15-storey prison where Angela Davis was being detained. The 1,500 participants held high the RSVN flag, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh's portrait and anti-war posters and chanted slogans demanding an end to the US war in South Viet Nam and Indochina and release of the black militant and some other detainees. That peace fighter and many other female prisoners attended the ceremony from behind the bars of their ward.

In front of the police, the participants went on shouting: "Ho! Ho! Ho Chi Minh!" "Victory to the NFL!" to wind up the meeting.

The rally over, a dinner was given in a church where one could see plenty of posters demanding an end to the Viet Nam war and withdrawal of US troops and welcoming the South Viet Nam NFL. The flag of the Republic of South Viet Nam was hung amidst those of other national liberation movements in the world. The meeting room was colourful and flooded with light. More than 250 persons enjoyed a meal prepared by Vietnamese residents in New York. The menu included pig's trotters and bamboo shoots, favourite dishes of our American friend. After the feast was a concert in which Vietnamese folk songs and revolutionary tunes alternated with American songs. Barbara Dane sang too.



Our American "comrades-in-arms" at the IOJ 7th Congress

We are aware that similar occasions were taking place on that day in many parts of the US. There, in Autumn, Winter, Spring or Summer, the ranks of fighters for peace in Viet Nam and Indochina and repatriation of American boys keep swelling.

Our American friend handed to me a lot of literature, pictures and press cuttings reflecting the keen aspirations of the American people: "This slap-dash material represents the fine tradition and energy of our people, you know!"

He told more about him when he paid me a visit in my room at Havana Hotel. Leaving the university he wanted to do something for the American people and began to take part in anti-war actions in New York; but he did not stop at that. "I'll fight against racism and make the revolution to bring about a new social order in the the States," he said.

When I asked for his name, he replied, "Your young 'colleague'."

"Or better your American 'buddy'," he added with a broad smile.

Yes, we are "buddies." I remembered what T.H. had said to me in Bratislava: "We'll become Viet Congs in the US. Nixon will witness our proliferation."

We have no troops in the US, but Nixon unleashed his in South Viet Nam. This is the reason why American Viet Congs are blooming in the US. They are our "buddies." We wish them success.

Before leaving, my American "buddy" raised his thumb and hugged me.

HUYNH VAN LY

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION